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ANNUAL REPORT

on the working of the

Archaeological Museum Mathura

For the year ending March 31, 1950

CENTRAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL
LIBRARY NEW DELHI

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ALLAHABAD :

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1951

CENTRAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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Annual Report on the Working of the Archaeological Museum, Mathura, for the year ending March 31, 1950 M.A.M.

1. **Managing Committee**—The term of the last Managing Committee constituted by Education Department notification no. C-593/XV—638-47, dated March 30, 1948, expired on September 30, 1948. There was no Committee throughout the year 1949-50.

2. **Administration**—Sri J. N. Ugra, P.O.S., Collector, Mathura, held the office of the Chairman from April 1, 1949 to March 6, 1950, and thereafter the same was held by me.

Sri K. D. Bajpai, M.A., worked as Curator throughout the year. Sri J. P. Chaturvedi, Sub-Curator remained on privilege leave for 23 days during the year.

3. **Finances**—(A) The Government grant for the year was spent under various heads as follows :

	Rs.	a.	p.
1. Pay of establishment	6,093	9	0
2. Contingencies—			
Contract	2,200	0	9
Non-contract	1,340	14	3
3. Allowances and Honoraria—			
Travelling allowance	44	7	0
City allowance	100	8	0
Dearness allowance.. .. .	2,869	10	0
Acquisition and Preservation of specimens	1,700	0	0
5. Library and other charges	499	15	0
6. Works—Maintenance and repairs	1,500	1	0
Total	16,367	1	0

(B) INCOME

(a) Sale of Museum Publications

	Rs.	a.	p.
(i) Museum Handbook (English), 80 copies at annas 12 each	60	0	0
(ii) Museum Handbook (Hindi), 41 copies at annas 12 each	30	12	0
(iii) Museum Picture Post Card Sets, 9 at annas 8 each	4	8	0
Total	95	4	0

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The amount realised as sale proceeds of the above was credited into the Government Treasury under the head "Printing and Stationery, Uttar Pradesh—XLV—Acts and other Books."

(b) *Sale of Grass and Flowers*

The amount of Rs.85 realised by sale of grass and flowers in the Museum compound during the year was deposited into the Government Treasury under the head "XXXVI—Miscellaneous Department—Museum Receipts."

4. **Acquisition**—During the year sixty-three antiquities (M. M. no. 3459 to 3521) consisting of sculptures, terracottas and a few bronze (Appendix A) were acquired for the Museum. The following of them deserve special notice:

An octagonal inscribed pillar (no. 3459, height 6'-6") forming part of a small sanctuary, dated V. 1636 (= 1579 A.D.) ; upper part of a terracotta female figure (no. 3478, height 3½") with shining black slip (Maurya); terracotta female head (no. 3490, height 2½") gorgeously decorated with pearl festoons and flowers (Śuṅga); terracotta female torso (no. 3497, height 4") in Gandhāra style (Śuṅga); a female figure (no. 3498, height 5") with two riders carved on both sides (Śuṅga); a well-preserved Buddha head (no. 3510, height 1'-8") of fine workmanship (Gupta); and a cross-bar (no. 3513) depicting Gokarṇeshwar Yaksha on both sides (early Kushāṇa).

Coins—One hundred and forty-five new coins were added to the Museum Coin Cabinet. They consisted of 1 gold Kedar Kushāṇa coin, 21 silver punch-marked coins and 123 Kushāṇa and tribal copper coins.

5. **Arrangement**—Out of the newly acquired antiquities, the important ones were suitably mounted and displayed in the galleries. Some old pieces, important from art and iconographic point of view and so far kept in the godowns, were also adequately exhibited for the first time. Labels for all the new exhibits were prepared in Hindi and English.

6. **Educational activities**—This Museum always attracts a large number of students interested in Indian Art and iconography. It possesses the richest collection of the Kushāṇa period. This year, as usual, students of local and outside educational institutions visited the Museum. They were taken round the galleries in batches by the Curator and Sub-Curator and were explained the local history and significance of the Mathura antiquities. Members of the French, Belgian, United Kingdom, Netherland and Swiss embassies, stationed at New Delhi, evinced keen interest in the Museum. The photographs of important pieces of Mathura Art, estampages of inscriptions and Brāhmī charts were supplied to the scholars and educational institutions. The Curator on being invited by the heads of local colleges and schools delivered five lectures to students on subjects dealing with history of Mathura, Indian Art and Archaeology. He also prepared a talk on the origin, growth and importance of the Mathura Museum. The same was recorded at the Delhi Station

of the All-India Radio and was broadcast on December 1, 1949, from the Patna Station of All-India Radio. He delivered another talk on August 3, 1949, from the All-India Radio, Delhi, entitled "The Archaeological Remains of Mathura."

7. Research and Publications—The Curator studied the old and new materials deposited in the Museum. As a result of his studies he prepared twenty-six articles in English and Hindi for various periodicals. Details of some of the articles are given below:

(1) Note on the Iconography of Brahmā, published in the *Bulletin of the Baroda Museum*, Volume V, no. 1—2 (1947-48).

(2) Some New Jaina Sculptures from Mathura—*Jaina Antiquary*, Arrah, Volume XIII, no. 2.

(3) New Mathura Finds. Published in *JUPHS*, Volume 21, (1948).

(4) Mathura Kalī men Brahmā, published in the *Sampurnananda Abhinandangrantha*, Banaras, 1950.

(5) Three New Kushāna Inscriptions from Mathura—Read at the XV Session of the All-India Oriental Conference, Bombay, published in the *Jaina Antiquary*, Volume XVI, no. 1 (June, 1950).

(6) Mathura Sangrahalaya ki Tārā Mūrti, published in *Shikshā*, Allahabad, Volume 3, no. 1 (July, 1950).

(7) Tirthankara Image of the Mathura Museum, dated Samvat 1826, published in *Ankanta*, Delhi, year 10, nos. 7-8.

Sri Bajpai's illustrated book in Hindi entitled *Mathura Parichaya* (154 pages) was published this year. The book deals in detail with the general history, art, archaeology, religion and literature of Mathura, which city has been through ages one of the greatest culture-centres of India. This publication removed a long-felt want and was much appreciated both by scholars and the general public.

All possible facilities were given to scholars engaged in research work in this Museum. The Curator, Sri Bajpai, guided a number of research students and helped them in solving their difficulties. One of them, Mr. Norvin Hein, completed this dissertation here this year for the degree of Ph.D. of the University of Yale (U. S. A.), the subject of his thesis being "The Vaishnava Dramatic Traditions of Vraja."

8. Library—Besides the subscribed journals and periodicals, 52 new books dealing with Indian art, religion, literature, history and archaeology were added to the Museum Reference Library. A list of the new additions is given in the Appendix B.

9. Museum Building and Gardens—Last year some cracks had appeared at several places in the outer walls of the Museum building. The matter was immediately brought to the notice of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, Agra. The Chief Engineer, Public

Works Department, Uttar Pradesh, was also later on apprised of the situation. But unfortunately the matter was much delayed and the cracks developed on. At last, in the months of May and June, 1949, some till-tiles were fixed on the affected walls by the Public Works Department authorities. Four masonry structures were also constructed to observe further developments in the sub-soil and foundations of the buildings.

The Museum lawns and gardens were maintained in a neat and tidy condition. Several new plants and shrubs were planted at suitable places.

10. **Visitors**—During the year the Museum attracted a large number of visitors from India and abroad. Some distinguished persons who paid visit to the Museum were—Sri V. D. Krishnaswami, Superintendent, Southern Circle, Department of Archaeology, Madras, Hon'ble Sri Jagjiwan Ram, Labour Minister, Government of India, Sri V. D. Tripathi, M.L.A., M. H. J. Lestoquoy, Vice-Consul, French Embassy, New Delhi, Sri C. D. Mudaliar, Chief Commissioner of the Province of Coorg, Mr. Frank Roberts, Deputy High Commissioner of United Kingdom in India, the Swiss Minister in India and the Maharaja Kumar of Sikkim.

11. **General**—The Curator, Sri Bajpai, visited several ancient sites in the Mathura District and acquired a number of antiquities for the Museum. His visit to the village Jhinga-ka-Nagla resulted in obtaining beautiful sculptures of early medieval period. He accompanied the District Magistrate, Sri J. N. Ugra, to Kudarhan (ancient Kumudvana) and Maholi (ancient Madhupuri) and showed to him the ancient sites there. The Government was pleased to appoint Sri Bajpai as a member of the Uttar Pradesh Museums Advisory Board. He also attended a meeting of the Uttar Pradesh Curators' Conference at Lucknow called by the Hon'ble Minister for Education, U. P.

Sri Bajpai has shown genuine interest in the all-round development of the Museum. Eminent visitors to this Museum have spoken highly of his talents as a research worker and organiser. Members of foreign embassies stationed at New Delhi have expressed great admiration for this growing institution of art and archaeology.

K. D. RAJPAI, M. A.,
Curator and Secretary.
Dated November 30, 1950.

S. S. L. KAKKAR, I.A.S.,
Collector,
Mathura.

APPENDIX A

*List of antiquities acquired for the Archaeological Museum, Mathura,
during the year 1949-50*

Re- gister no.	Description	Locality	Source
<i>Stone pieces</i>			
3459	Octagonal inscribed stone pillar forming part of a small sanctuary in the Moghal period.	Bhairon Ghat, Mathura.	Acquired by the Curator.
3460	Part of a big stone <i>amalaka</i> ..	Kansa-kā-Kilā site, Mathura.	Ditto.
3461	Part of a slab showing Kāliya-marddana scene. Gupta period.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3462	Architectural piece showing two decorative <i>makaras</i> . Early Medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3463	Headless seated lion ..	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3464	Fragment of a Vishnu image. Late medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3465	Architectural piece with a swan and scroll work. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3466	Lower part of a squatted Kubera image seated on pedestal.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3467	Torso of Indrāṇī image. Her chest, hands and feet are damaged. Tastefully ornamented, she stands in a graceful pose. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3468	Part of a slab with Gaṇeśa and other two figures.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3469	Mutilated Yaksha image in dancing pose. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3470	Lower part of a pillar. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3471	Four-handed Gaṇeśa. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3472	Upper part of a Vishnu image. Late medieval period.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3473	Stone slab depicting the Sacred Tree. Early medieval.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3474	A female <i>Chauri</i> -bearer ..	Kathoti Kuā ..	Presented by Munna Sweeper of the Museum.

Re- gister no.	Description	Locality	Source
3475	Śivalinga coiled by snakes. Black kanak stone. <i>Stucco and terracotta figurines</i>	Yamunā river ..	Presented by Pandit Chandā Shekhar Śāstri, Mathura.
3476	Well-preserved stucco figure of Buddha seated in <i>dhyānamudrā</i> . Gandhāra style. Gupta period.	Taxila, district. Rawalpindi.	Purchased.
3477	Lower part of a terracotta male figure. Kushāna.	Rani-ki-Mandi ..	Presented by Pandit Govind Charan.
3478	Upper part of a terracotta female figure richly ornamented. Black clay with shining black slip. Maurya period.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3479	Broken part of a terracotta used as a foot-rubber. On the re- verse is a lotus decoration.	Katrā ..	Ditto.
3480	Terracotta head and bust of a female figure. Her coiffure, showing attractive treatment of hair on either side and the <i>kavāṛibhāra</i> in front, is note- worthy. She wears heavy ear- rings and a <i>stanakāra</i> . Red clay. Śunga period.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3481	Broken terracotta showing a male and a female figure. The latter is carrying the man in her lap. Kushāna.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3482	Head and bust of a terracotta male figure. Traces of red slip are visible. Kushāna.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3483	Terracotta mother and child. Kushāna.	Girdharpur ..	Ditto.
3484	Terracotta female head with gor- geous coiffure and broad ear- rings. Traces of red slip. Mixed red and black clay. Kushāna.	Arjunpura ..	Ditto.
3485	Lower part probably of a warrior. Red clay. Śunga.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3486	Upper part of a terracotta male figure. His lenticular eyes, dotted eye-brows and elongated ear-rings fixed on the cheeks are noteworthy features. The hair is arranged in knobs. Black clay. Maurya.	Chāmunda Tilā..	Ditto.

Re- gister no.	Description	Locality	Source
3487	Terracotta head and bust of a female figure. The smiling face, beautiful hair arrangement and the pressing breasts are remarkable. This is a fine specimen of Gupta period. Red clay.	Katrá.	.. Presented by Pandit Govind Charan.
3488	Terracotta lid of a small pot with knob at the top.	Do.	.. Ditto.
3489	Upper part of a terracotta female playing on a flute. She wears a number of ornaments. Kushāpa.	Do.	.. Ditto.
3490	Terracotta female head gorgeously decorated with pearl festoons and flowers, embossed over the wellarranged coiffure. Śuṅga.	Do.	.. Ditto.
3491	Terracotta female figure preserved up to the waist. She wears a number of ornaments and is depicted in a dancing pose. Red clay. A beautiful piece of the Kushāpa period.	Chaurāsī Tilā	.. Ditto.
3492	Part of a terracotta horse. Kushāpa period.	Ditto	.. Ditto.
3493	Upper part of a terracotta female figure, showing Goddess Chāmap-dā. Kushāpa.	Ditto	.. Ditto.
3494	Upper part of a terracotta female figure. Black clay. Śuṅga.	Rānī Mandi	.. Ditto.
3495	Terracotta head and bust of a female figure. In her raised right hand the female holds a bunch of flowers. Kushāpa.	Girdharpur	.. Ditto.
3496	Terracotta female torso. The lady is wearing a <i>stanahāra</i> , a broad girdle and heavy wristlets. On her left hand she carries a bird which holds a bunch of flowers in its beak. Śuṅga.	Do.	.. Ditto.
3497	Terracotta female torso made in the Gandhāra style. Black clay. A unique specimen of Greek plastic art found in Mathurā.	Maholi	.. Ditto.
3498	Terracotta plaque broken in two parts (now joined together) depicting the full figure of a lady standing in a graceful pose. She is richly ornamented. The hair is arranged in an elaborate fashion fastened with pearl-strings.	Jaisingh Purā	.. Ditto.

Register no.	Description	Locality	Source
<i>Sculptures</i>			
3499	Bodhisattva Maitreya standing in <i>abhaya mudrā</i> . Kushāṇa.	Mahāvidyā ..	Presented by Pandit Govind Charan.
3500	Upper part of a female figure with the head turned up. Gupta period.	Rāṇi-kī-Mandī ..	Ditto.
3501	Pedestal of a Buddha image with traces of Brāhmī letters on the upper rim. Kushāṇa.	Katrā ..	Ditto.
3502	Torso of an image of Indra carved in the round. The right arm is completely broken. In the left hand the god holds <i>Sakti</i> . He wears double necklace, the second necklace consisting of half and full rosettes and the <i>vajra</i> symbol in the middle. He wears armlets, bracelets and <i>Yajño-pavita</i> . The thick waist-band is noteworthy. On the right shoulder is to be seen lower part of another figure emerging out of Indra's third arm. A similar device must have been on the corresponding right side of Indra. Kushāṇa period.	Katrā Keshava Deva	Ditto.
3503	Elephant with two riders carved on both the sides of the animal. Śuṅga.	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3504	Broken piece of a female figure. The deep round navel, the right hand full of bracelets and the fourfold girdle on broad loins depict high workmanship on the part of the sculptor. The lady was in an unusual pose. She held an indistinct object in her right hand. Kushāṇa.	Anyor ..	Ditto.
3505	Head of a similar female figure. The hair in the front has been arranged in locks on both sides and the rest parted behind and surmounted by a flower garland. Over the forehead between the locks is a twelve-petalled ornament. In the right ear there is a <i>Tātankachakra</i> . The right ear is damaged. A fine Gupta piece.	Do. ..	Ditto.
3506	Mutilated four-handed image of Viṣṇu in his Vāmana incarnation. Medieval.	Gaughāt ..	Ditto.

Re- gister no.	Description	Locality	Source
3507	Pedestal of a large Buddha image. In the middle Bodhisattva Maitreya is seated on a raised cushion. Kushāna period.	Mahāvīdyā ..	Presented by Pandit Govind Charan.
3508	Hārītī seated on a bench. Her right leg rests on a foot stool. She holds a child in her left lap. There are three Yaksha figures carved on the pedestal below. Kushāna.	Naglā Jhingā ..	Ditto.
3509	Fragment of a stone slab with four foot-prints, below which is an inscription of 6 lines in the Bengali script.	Yamuna river ..	Ditto.
3510	Head of a Buddha figure of the Gupta period. The curly hair, the eye-brows, the half-closed eyes, the nose, the lips, the elongated ears—all these features have been very clearly and artistically shown by the artist. There are two lines to be seen around the neck. The head is very well-preserved and may be placed among the few first class Buddha heads so far found in the Mathura art. On the back are traces of a halo.	Chāmupdā Mound.	Purchased.
<i>Miscellaneous</i>			
3511	Head and bust of a terracotta female figure wearing a heavy turban. Kushāna.	Katrā Keshava Deva.	Presented by Śrī Radha Raman Sarraf of Mathura.
3512	Part of a lintel carved with a fish-tailed crocodile. Red sandstone. Sunga.	From near the Tilak Dwār.	Purchased. Mathura.
3513	Cross-Bar depicting Gokarnesvara Yaksha on both the sides. Kushāna.	..	Do.
3514	Bronze image of Vishnu in the South Indian style. He is standing on the coils of Śeṣanāga. Five hoods of the serpent are shown in the form of a canopy over Vishnu's head. Time eighteenth century A.D.	..	Do.
3515	Bronze image of four-handed Vishnu standing on a tortoise, beneath which is a lotus. South Indian School of Art. 18th century A.D.	..	Do.

Re- gister no.	Description	Locality	Source
3516	Male head with a nice turban which assumes the shape of a crown resembling peacock feathers at the left end. Red sandstone. Kushāṇa.	Khirkī Dalpot ..	Presented by Sri Radha Ramen Sarnaf, Chowk, Mathura.
3517	Torso of a Scythian figure holding a broken dagger. Kushāṇa.	..	Ditto.
3518	Terracotta head with lenticular eyes. Kushāṇa.	..	Ditto.
3519	Terracotta female head with a veil. Kushāṇa.	..	Ditto.
3520	Inscribed pedestal of an image probably Buddhist. Only part of the first Brāhmī letter and the last three letters can be read. Kushāṇa period.	Maholi ..	Purchased.
3521	Part of a railing pillar inscribed with the words (Bala) in Brāhmī on the reverse. Kushāṇa period.	Do. ..	Do.

APPENDIX B

*List of books added to the Archaeological Museum Library, Mathura,
during the year 1949-50*

Serial number	Name of book	Presented by or purchased
1203 to 1208	Critical edition of Mahā bhārata published by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona. 7 Vols.	Purchased.
1209	Sāriputta, Moggalāna and Sāñchi Stupa ..	Mahā Bodhi Society, Calcutta.
1210	Sāriputta, and Moggalāna Indian Reception Souvenir.	Ditto.
1211	Indian Art through the Ages ..	Government of India.
1212	Kalā Pradarśinī, New Delhi ..	Ditto.
1213	Exhibition of Indian Art, Delhi. Album ..	Ditto.
1214	Brief History of Bhārata Itihāsa Samshodhak Mandal, Poona.	B. I. S. Mandal, Poona
1215	Bulletin of Baroda State Museum, Volume IV, Part II, 46-47.	Dr. H. Goetz.
1216	Etched Beads in India, by M. G. Dikshit ..	Purchased.
1217	Exhibition of Indian Art at Delhi, 1903 ..	Do.
1218	Yasodhārā, by Maithilisharan Gupta ..	Do.
1219	Vikramāditya, by Shukdeva Behari Misra ..	Do.
1220 to 1228	Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, from the year 1928 to 1936.	Do.
1229	Bulletin of Baroda State Museum, Volume V, Part I, II, 47-48.	Dr. H. Goetz.
1230	Vāñijya Shabda Kosha, by Acharya Raghu- vira.	Purchased.
1231	Artha Shāstra Kosha, by Acharya Raghu- vira.	Do.
1232	History of Costumes, by G. Kohler ..	Do.
1233-1234	Later Mughals, Volumes I and II, by Irvine	Do.

Serial no.	Name of book	Presented by or purchased
1235 to 1236	History of Aurangzeb, Volumes I, II and IV, by J. N. Sarkar.	Purchased.
1237	Studies in Tantras, Part I, by P. C. Bagchi	Do.
1238	Maurya and Sunga Art, by N. R. Ray ..	Do.
1239	Indianism and its Expansion, by F. W. Thomas	Do.
1240	The Social Function of Art, by R. K. Mukherji.	Do.
1241	Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu), by Percy Brown.	Do.
1242	Rūpadarsini, by M. R. Acharekar ..	Do.
1243-1244	The Hindu Temple, Volumes I and II, by Stella Kramrisch.	Do.
1245	The Monuments of the Udaigiri Hill, by Dr. D. R. Patil.	The Director of Archaeology, Gwalior.
1246	Sar-Nirpaya by Dwarkadas Parikh and Prabhu Dayal Mittal.	Purchased.
1247-1248	History of Aurangzeb, Volumes III and V, by Sarkar.	Do.
1249	Chaitanya's Life and Teaching, by Sarkar ..	Do.
1250	Summary of papers submitted to Fifteenth Oriental Conference, Bombay, 1948.	Subscribed.
1251	Archaeology in India	Government of India.
1252	Chinese Stone Sculptures by Seichi Mizuno	J. Mayuyama, Tokyo.
1253	Uttar Pradesh ke Sangrahalayon ka Prasār tathi Kārya Vivran by the Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Museums Board, Lucknow.	The Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Museums Board, Lucknow.

K. D. BAJPAI.



No. 3510—Well-preserved Buddha head of fine workmanship.

PLATE II



No. 3497—(a) Terracotta female torso in Gandhara style.



No. 3513—(b) Cross-bar depicting Gokarneshwar Yaksha.

